



Written by [D. Michael DeRidder](#) on October 1, 2024

Israel Responds to Iranian Missile Attack

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded to the Iranian missile attack, warning Israel will retaliate in response: "Iran made a big mistake tonight - and it will pay for it." In a video statement posted on X, Netanyahu congratulated the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), citing the air defense system for successfully defending against the ballistic missiles, and also thanked the citizens of Israel for their vigilance, and the defensive coalition led by the United States for supporting the defense of Israel during the attack:



AP Images

Iranian missiles in the sky as seen from Gaza

- pic.twitter.com/B2yppgGqcE

— Benjamin Netanyahu - [October 1, 2024](#)

IDF spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari also responded to the Iranian attack, claiming Israel along with a defensive coalition led by the United States intercepted the majority of the incoming Iranian missiles, and confirmed a small number of missiles hit central and southern Israel, [stating on X](#):

Iran launched a large scale attack of over 180 ballistic missiles directly from Iranian soil at the State of Israel. There were a small number in the center of Israel, and some other hits in southern Israel. The majority of the incoming missiles were intercepted by Israel and the defensive coalition led by the United States. Iran’s attack is a severe and dangerous escalation, there will be consequences. Our defensive and offensive capabilities are at the highest levels of readiness. Our operational plans are ready, we will respond wherever, whenever, and however we choose in accordance with the directive of the government of Israel. Iran and its proxies have been attacking Israel since the seventh of October on seven fronts. Iran and its proxies seek the destruction of Israel, the Israel Defense Forces will continue doing everything, everything necessary to defend the State of Israel and protect the people of Israel.

“Iran’s attack is a severe and dangerous escalation. There will be consequences...We will respond wherever, whenever and however we choose, in accordance with the directive of the government of Israel.”

Watch IDF Spokesperson RAdm. Daniel Hagari regarding Iran’s large-scale...



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he worked with senior defense officials in the IDF's command and control center during the attack, [stating on X](#):

I spent this evening in the command and control center together with senior defense officials, closely watching the IDF's successful defense against the Iranian missile attack on Israel. Iran has not learned a simple lesson - those who attack the State of Israel, pay a heavy price.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin stated he spoke with Gallant earlier today, noting that the United States is determined to prevent Iran from escalating the conflict in the region, and also prepared to defend allies and U.S. personnel, [stating on X](#):

Today, I spoke with Israeli Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant today to discuss the threat of an imminent Iranian attack against Israel. I shared that over recent days the United States has increased force readiness and continues to maintain significant military capability in the region. I made it clear that the United States is well-postured to defend U.S. personnel, allies, and partners in the face of threats from Iran and Iran-backed terrorist organizations and is determined to prevent any actor from exploiting tensions or expanding the conflict in the region. We discussed the severe consequences for Iran in the event Iran chooses to launch a direct military attack against Israel.



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